METRO FOCUS ON

ACTIVISM!

NINE-YEAR-OLD YOUNGEST OF THE YOUNG LEADERS AT WOMEN'S MARCH

metroNEWS

***Samuel de Champlain* about to get new digs at scenic Nepean Point**

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Ottawa metro

Your essential daily news | WEEKEND, JANUARY 20-22, 2017 | High 2°C/Low -3°C Partly sunny

INAUGURATION DAY

THE TRUMP ERA BEGINS

DONALD J. TRUMP IS BEING SWORN IN AS 45TH PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AT NOON IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

metroNEWS

Bus smoky days before fire erupted

PUBLIC SAFETY

No evidence incidents were related, says OC Transpo

Dylan C. Robertson
For Metro | Ottawa

The Ottawa bus that burst into flames Tuesday morning had smoke issues four days prior, according to city officials.

Last Friday, the driver of bus No. 8010 noticed smoke coming from the back of the vehicle, so he pulled it over.

Troy Charter, OC Transpo's director of transit operation, said mechanics inspected the bus and took it on a road test.

"Throughout the extensive inspection and testing, the bus operated normally," he wrote in an email.

The bus was returned to service on Monday. The next morning, it again produced smoke from the back, before bursting into flames. All passengers, roughly 75, were evacuated before the fire.

"At this time we do not have anything to suggest that the two incidents are related or that the Friday incident contributed to the incident this week. We will include this information in our detailed investigation," Charter said.

The news comes after Charter told reporters that the bus had been checked Tuesday morning just hours before it combusted.

"This does appear to be an isolated issue," he said Tuesday.

The same bus skidded off Woodroffe Avenue and hit a pole in April 2013.

Charter noted that another double-decker bus also caught fire in 2015.

"The root cause of the fire was found to be a transmission wiring harness making contact with the exhaust of the engine turbo charger, causing the wiring harness to melt and short out, resulting in some combustion flames in the engine compartment in the rear of the bus," Charter wrote. "The bus has since been repaired and returned to regular service."

"These incidents are very rare, can occur and are not isolated to the double-decker fleet," Charet wrote. The city's 117 double-decker buses each cost about $1 million and were introduced in 2012.

If men are from Mars, women are ... also from Mars metroSCIENCE

metro NEWS
Your essential daily news

Notorious Mexican drug kingpin "El Chapo" extradited to the U.S.

TRANSIT

Light rail plan gets approval

Adam Kveton
For Metro | Ottawa

The second phase for Ottawa's light rail transit has cleared another hurdle, with the NCC approving of the city's construction plans on its lands in the west.

The rail crosses NCC land at the Sir John A. Macdonald Parkway in Westboro, and south by Lincoln Fields to Baseline Road and beyond.

One of the plan's major features is to cut a tunnel below the eastbound lanes of the Sir John A. parkway, leaving only a quarter of the 1.2-kilometre stretch of rail above ground on the east side of NCC property.

Having the rail underground means more green space and better access to the waterfront, said Martin Barakengera, the senior land use planner who made the presentation to the NCC board.

NCC CEO Mark Kristmanson declared the work between the NCC and the city a success.

However, Barakengera and NCC board members suggested plans for a exhaust fan plant at the west end of the tunnel will likely be a problem for nearby residents who had already expressed their displeasure with the proposed structure.

The footprint of the building has been reduced by 10 per cent, and other mitigation is suggested through architectural design.

Due to legal requirements, placing the plant elsewhere would cause a cost increase of about $14 million, said Barakengera.

CONFEDERATION LINE TUNNEL EXCAVATED Ottawa Mayor Jim Watson tweeted this photo Thursday showing that the tunnel for the Confederation Line has been completely excavated. The last section under Rideau Street was excavated recently. It had been delayed by last year's sinkhole. CITY OF OTTAWA

Library board not swayed by opposition

LEBRETON FLATS

More than 200 attended event to discuss new branch

Dylan C. Robertson
For Metro | Ottawa

The city will likely build a new central library at Lebreton Flats, despite downtown residents complaining the new location sits outside the city core, said one member of the library board.

At least 200 people took to City Hall council chambers Wednesday night, and a show of hands had none supporting the city's current plan.

Coun. David Chernushenko said roughly a dozen constituents told him they don't like the proposed location, mostly Glebe residents who visit the main branch from their downtown workplaces.

"A central library plays a bigger role than just taking out books," he said, hoping it remains a hub for speaking events and book launches.

> **A central library plays a bigger role than just taking out books.**
> Coun. David Chernushenko

Chernushenko said the new location is a kilometre from downtown density, but suggested it might densify with time.

Coun. Marianne Wilkinson originally pushed to have the branch located downtown, before realizing no options were accessible to those coming from the suburbs on the light-rail line.

"This is a central library; it's not a local library," said Wilkinson, who is on the library board.

She dismissed those suggesting the library be put in Confederation Park, because "those same people have said we don't have enough park land in Centretown."

If approved by the library board, council will likely vote on the plan February 8.

Ottawa DIGEST

CRIME

Elderly woman killed inside Hull home

A young Gatineau man has been charged with second-degree murder after an elderly woman was found killed in her Hull home Wednesday.

Police were called to 171 Cité-des-Jeunes Blvd., bordering Gatineau Park, around noon, about "an agitated man with suspicious behaviour." They found a body inside the home.

Sgt. Jean-Paul Lemay said the victim was an 83-year-old woman.

Jean-François Dupuis, 21, appeared in court Thursday; he faces a second-degree murder charge. METRO

SECURITY

Man arrested at airport on child porn charges

Ottawa police have arrested a 41-year-old man who was headed to the United States when border guards found child pornography on a cellphone.

Police were called to the Ottawa airport Wednesday, after Customs and Border protection unit found images on a cellphone while doing a secondary inspection of a man travelling to Chicago.

The Ottawa police believe the images constitute child pornography and a search warrant is being prepared to allow officers with the Internet Child Exploitation unit to examine the phone and other digital devices.

Abdul Rahim, 41 years old, is charged with possession of child pornography and he will make a first court appearance on Thursday. METRO

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5 things to do this weekend

At long last it won't be cold or snowing. Get out there and do one, or five, things. **DYLAN C. ROBERTSON** FOR METRO

1 Ballet homecoming

National Art Centre
Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m.
Kanata native Jonathan Renna, a character artist with the National Ballet of Canada, is back home to perform John Cranko's Onegin at the NAC. Tickets to this Russian tragedy start at $54, with half-price student and rush rates.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

2 Kanata Nordic Snow Day

Wesley Clover Parks
Sunday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
This free sports day is packed with opportunities to try snow-shoeing and cross-country skiing amid live shows from Junkyard Symphony and Prairie Fire. You can watch skijoring, a Norwegian sport where dogs pull a person on skis, in action. Adults can take in Muskoka Brewery craft beers, while kids can fill up their 'Passport to Winter Fun' for a prize.

3 SUNG RA: Songs of Sun Ra

Church of the Ascension (253 Echo Dr.)
Sunday, 7:30-9:30 p.m.
The LGBTQ choir Tone Cluster will harmonize with local free-jazz octet Rakestar in a church on Sunday evening. The 35-member choir will join the eight costumed musicians in a tribute to their deceased bandleader Sun Ra. Tickets are $20.

4 Vegan pop tart and a concert

Little Jo Berry's (1305 Wellington St. W.)
Sunday, 7-9 p.m.
Enjoy some vegan fare and eclectic music at this Hintonburg vegan bakery. American artists Ruune and guitarist and prose poet Alyssa Kai will be joined by Ottawa rapper Jesse Dangerously. Admission is $5, all-ages, and includes a pop tart.

5 Scottish Tapestry

Ottawa Public Library main branch (120 Metcalfe St.)
Sunday, 2-4 p.m.
Celebrating 33 communities across the world, this tapestry will be discussed at 2 p.m. in the basement auditorium, followed by a tour upstairs of the tapestry's 305 embroidered panels.

TRANSIT

Gatineau bus drivers vote in favour of work-to-rule measures

Dylan C. Robertson
For Metro | Ottawa

Gatineau's transit union has opted for work-to-rule measures, which will likely delay bus service for customers of the Société de transport de l'Outaouais (STO).

As of print time, both sides were six hours into Thursday negotiations with a federally appointed moderator, which might postpone or end those measures.

Members of the Amalgamated Transit Union's 591 branch won't run buses for next month's Winterlude festivities, and will follow rules to their strictest interpretation. That means drivers and mechanics will piously obey speed limits and refuse special or overtime hours. They'll report any deficiencies, including ones that don't impede safe bus operation, like cleanliness.

Drivers will wear jeans, in addition to the neon-yellow protest shirts they've dawned for months. The union's contract expired in December 2014.

Union head Félix Gendron slammed the STO at a press conference Wednesday night, for making it seem like the union was considering a complete walk-off instead of interim measures.

"The STO, to make the union look bad, said that we'd be doing an unlimited general strike," Gendron claimed, but added the disruption could escalate.

The union's 72-hour strike countdown ends Friday at 4 a.m. While most federally regulated companies in labour disputes end without work stoppages, that didn't stop the seven-week 2008 OC Transpo strike.

Gatineau Mayor Maxime Pedneaud-Jobin told Metro he hoped both sides find a solution.

"It's possible to talk through the media, but it's better to talk in person. And a possible strike would effect thousands of people in Gatineau and we don't want to see that."

TRANSPORTATION

Hints of 'historic' changes to transit

In the next couple of weeks, Ottawa and Gatineau expect to come out with an "historic" agreement outlining how Ottawa's upcoming light rail transit system will work with STO busses.

The new deal was hinted at by Gatineau Mayor Maxime Pedneaud-Jobin at a NCC meeting Thursday.

Despite Gatineau and Ottawa upgrading their transit systems in two distinct ways (Gatineau is going with a Rapibus system, and Ottawa is building light rail), Ottawa Mayor Jim Watson said, "There is the opportunity for us to help each other."

To that end, meetings with the transit manager of both cities, their transit chairs and both mayors have taken place "for the first time ever," said Watson.

The goal has been to set up a "broad framework" to ensure a "seamless transition" for passengers from one service to another, said Watson.

The focus is on minimizing the buses on Slater, Albert and Wellington while dealing with demand.

"STO obviously has a lot of customers that need to go to places whether it's Ottawa U or Rideau Centre, and we want to make sure that there is room for them to use some of the road space as well," he said.

Pedneaud-Jobin suggested this is the "first step" in a more all-encompassing transit agreement.

"The priority is to make sure that we amalgamate the (transit) service itself. Not necessarily the organizations ... (but) the first step that is being negotiated is how do we adapt to the arrival of LRT?"

ADAM KVETON / FOR METRO

Ottawa wants you to help redesign Nepean Point

COMPETITION

City looks to renew Samuel de Champlain monument site

Adam Kveton
For Metro | Ottawa

Perhaps one of the best spots to view the Ottawa River, the Gatineau Hills and Parliament, is now the focus of a National Capital Commission (NCC) design competition.

Located across the locks from Parliament, the spot offers impressive views of Canada's seat of government and Gatineau.

At its peak is the statue of Samuel de Champlain, the father of New France, which has been gazing over the Ottawa River from the top of a man-made hill at Nepean Point since 1967. But in that time, the Astrolabe Theatre, part of renovations to the site for Canada's 100th anniversary, have deteriorated.

"Today, shows are no longer held at the amphitheatre as it is not considered safe for public use," according to documents issued for the design competition. "The presence of asbestos in the change rooms located there are one reason for that."

In an effort to at least show the future design for the site during Canada's 150th year, the NCC's CEO, Mark Kristmanson, said Thursday "We are very pleased to launch the Nepean Point design competition."

The NCC is looking for design ideas for a 2.5-hectare area, with the focus on Nepean Point, but with the art path south behind the National Gallery of Canada and part of St. Patrick Street included.

Designs could also include nearby land and possibly a pedestrian bridge connecting Major's Hill Park.

However that work would have to happen in subsequent phases of construction.

Some on the NCC's board expressed their interest in keeping the Champlain statue at its current height and at the same place, while others wanted to see what alternatives designers might come up with.

Kristmanson said the idea is to keep Champlain and the landform of the area prominent, but not cling to any particular height.

DETAILS

- Entrants will design a 2.5-hectare area with a focus on Nepean Point.
- The NCC will identify four teams to submit designs, and choose a winner in Dec. 2017.
- The planned budget for the project is $6.7 million (not including honorariums).
- Construction would take place between 2019 and 2022.

The National Capital Commission is making plans to renovate and re-open Nepean Point, where the Astrolabe Theatre has been deemed unsafe for public use due in part to asbestos. The organization announced the design competition Thursday. ADAM KVETON / FOR METRO

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Hop to trot

NEW BUSINESS

Small Pony Barrel Works will focus on sour beer

THE BOTTLENECK

Brewer Sean McVeigh's beer will be barrel-aged. SUPPLIED

Small Pony Barrel Works, under the guidance of brewer Sean McVeigh, is bringing something new to Ottawa — a brewery exclusively focused on barrel-aged sour beers.

To the uninitiated, a "sour" beer may sound like a mistake, but this style has been around for centuries in Belgium and has recently seen a renaissance in beer-forward North American cities. It's still relatively new in Ontario and McVeigh is unaware of any other local brewery focused only on this style.

Sour beers start off just like regular beers: water, hops plus malts. But instead of fermenting the beer with a single yeast strain, different microorganisms are invited to the party. The results are a wide-range of potential flavours. McVeigh points out that this is similar to the way that yogurt or kombucha are created.

With craft beer becoming less of a novelty, and more the norm, it's fascinating to see sour-loving beer subculture emerge. McVeigh had been brewing for well over a decade and playing with a variety of beer styles before settling on the unique sour.

You can't blame him, it's a beer that demands patience but also allows for lots of experimentation and creativity. The beer sits in barrels for a long time. Rum barrels or wine barrels can vastly change the finished product. Even the wood used in the creation of the barrel can impart different flavours. Plus, there are numerous yeast and bacterial strains that create flavours from tart to fruity to horse-blanket (named after a friendly family horse).

McVeigh is rolling out his business with care and energy as he looks forward to the coming year: "2017 is going to be a very busy year... we're amassing wine barrels at the brewery and just brewing a lot of sour beer to put to sleep for the year. It's going to be a great learning experience as we explore many types of fermentation, blending, fruits and other interesting ingredients."

Small Pony Barrel Works is brewing and cellaring in Kanata and will open their tasting room to the public later this year. McVeigh has already released some collaborative brews, a variety of golden sour beers, with Evergreen Craft Ales. There will be another offering, teamed with Cassel Brewery, available within a couple months. Stay tuned at smallponybarrelworks.com.

LOCAL HOPPENINGS

- The 2017 Canadian Brewing Awards are in Ottawa and the competition is accepting submissions. Time for the 613 to #OwnThePodium at canadianbrewingawards.com.
- Nita Beer is turning two with a party at the brewery Feb. 4, noon to 4, with music, food and beer.
- Muskoka Brewery has released a beer club membership with delivery of their Moonlight Kettle brews. Details on shop.muskokabrewery.com
- Clocktower Brew Pub's East Coast IPA is now on tap.
- Beau's #FeBREWary will release five new beers, kicking off with International Gruit Day on Feb. 1. They'll follow that up March 11 with a St Patrick's Party at Aberdeen Pavillion. Tickets on sale.
- Broadhead Brewery has released Barrhaven Blonde exclusively for the neighbourhood.
- Run To Beer Ottawa's next group run is Jan. 29, route details on their Facebook page. FYI: the beer (from Tooth and Nail) happens after the run...
- Tues. Jan. 24 CRAFT beer market is having a launch party for 21 new beers; all newbies $4 from 4-7 p.m.

JORDAN DUFF/FOR METRO

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Making it with Metro

CREATIVITY

Artist finds success with newspaper collage artwork

Yvette d'Entremont
Metro | Halifax

A Dartmouth-based collage artist who turned daily free newspapers into an art career is officially opening her studio this weekend.

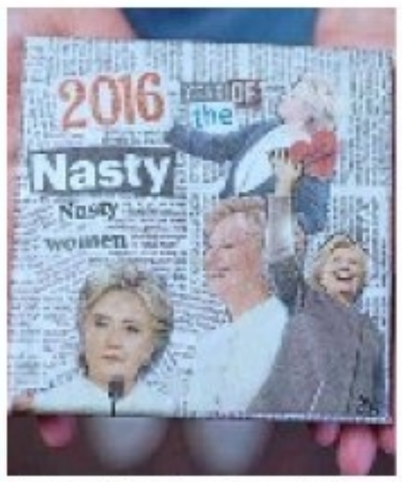
About two and a half years ago, Rhonda Barrett was pregnant, teaching yoga and making very little.

"It was a case of you need money to make money," she recalled.

She was always interested in the arts, but had never considered it as a career. Barrett lived in Halifax at the time and often found herself at the Halifax North Memorial Public Library.

"The Metro is outside and I'd always go and get the newspaper each day. After a month I had this stack of paper," she recalled.

Rhonda Barrett is a collage artist. JEFF HARPER/METRO



Some of the artwork made from newspapers. JEFF HARPER/METRO

"I looked at it one day and I thought 'Paper! It's free!' I went to the dollar store. My first canvas was a 16x20 from the dollar store."

Barrett's first newspaper collage piece was inspired by Roxy D'Lite, her favourite burlesque star. She posted a photo on Facebook asking her friends if anyone would consider buying it.

The response was immediate. It sold for $150, giving her the cash she needed to purchase supplies to create more newspaper collage artworks.

In the past two years she has created more than 100 pieces, many of them commissioned. Some are famous personalities like Bob Marley and Audrey Hepburn. She's currently working on a portrait of Kurt Cobain.

Other pieces include Peggy's Cove and artworks inspired by her yoga practice, province or news of the day.

"My biggest hurdle is people look at this and from afar, they're not going to think this is newspaper. It's about bringing someone close enough where they see the texture and ask what is this made of," she said.

"If I take one and hold it up to the light, you can see the backside of the paper. All of the words and images start to come through."

She's received Artzone Gallery's award for new emerging artist and was also chosen as a finalist in the first international Nonesuch Art on Paper awards last year.

"The pieces are dated by the papers I've used ... It's kind of an interesting time capsule," Barrett said.

FIRST NATIONS

Trudeau holds talks on suicide strategy

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau held a closed door meeting Thursday with some leaders of Ontario's northern First Nations to discuss a national suicide strategy.

The Prime Minister reached out to Wapekeka First Nation band council member Joshua Frogg, the uncle of Chantell Fox, a 12-year-old girl who committed suicide on January 10, Nishnawbe Aski Nation Grand Chief Alvin Fiddler and Mushkegowuk Council Grand Chief Jonathan Solomon.

The chiefs were in Ottawa to hold a press conference on Parliament Hill, demanding a national suicide strategy after the deaths of Fox and her 12-year-old friend Jolynn Winter. She committed suicide first, on Jan. 8. Four other girls were flown out of the remote, First Nation 600 km north of Thunder Bay, and, another 26 students are considered "high risk" for suicide.

Wapekeka Chief Brennan Sainnawap, Chantell's grandfather, wrote to Health Canada in July to demand help and submit a mental health funding proposal, saying they feared a suicide pact among girls was present in the community.

Health Canada denied their request.

"The first thing we raised was the urgency of the situation, the fact the community has asked for some supports which they submitted back in July and the government's need to act immediately to approve the proposal," said Fiddler after the meeting on Thursday.

Fiddler handed Trudeau a copy of NAN's declaration of a state of health emergency in their communities and those all the way to the Manitoba border, on Feb. 26, 2016.

The declaration outlined how indigenous people are dying of preventable diseases like rheumatic fever, suffering adverse effects of diabetes and lacking mental health care and addiction treatments.

The declaration called for a transformation of how healthcare is delivered to these communities, said Fiddler, who added chiefs in Manitoba and Saskatchewan agree with them.

Fiddler said Trudeau was "very receptive" to all of their suggestions but he made no commitments. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

ByWard Market
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William Square, York Street, Friday Feb 3, 11:30 am - 2 pm
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VANCOUVER

Despite resistance, Squamish youth forges path to reconciliation

Cara McKenna
For Metro

When Adina Williams of Squamish Nation was in Grade 10, she was asked to introduce her community's territory before a graduation ceremony in North Vancouver.

It was her first time speaking in public, but people were so thankful for her presence at the event that it launched many other opportunities for Williams to educate people about her nation. Since then, the twenty-year-old Williams has since been an informal youth ambassador for her community, speaking about reconciliation at several high schools and events. She's even led professional development sessions for teachers and administrators as part of a wider push to incorporate Indigenous learning into mainstream education.

It's often not comfortable or easy to break long-standing barriers, but Williams is one of many Indigenous youth who are stepping forward to lead the way.

"Reconciliation and this kind of work is so important to me, because I recognize that these are opportunities that my parents didn't have," said Williams, who is an intergenerational survivor of the residential school system.

Adina Williams, 20, a member of Squamish Nation has been doing work towards reconciliation. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO

In the past several months, Williams has facilitated reconciliation workshops with young people in Vancouver as part of a new role as a youth leader with a charity organization called Canadian Roots Exchange.

She has also been recognized at the University of British Columbia, where she's working towards going to medical school.

The director of UBC's First Nations House of Learning recently acknowledged her when the institution announced it was opening an Indian Residential School History and Dialogue Centre.

"If people want to be serious about reconciliation, working with the local Indigenous communities is really integral to that," she pointed out.

Williams added, however, that sometimes it feels one-sided. Once, a parent at her high school had watched her do a territorial welcoming and decided to tell her nobody cares about the work she's doing and to just "forget it."

"If anything it motivated me to do more and maybe try my best to further educate people on why this work is so important."

Despite resistance among some, Williams said she's noticed many other youth blazing trails in reconciliation work — particularly her peers at Squamish Nation.

"It's not even just being right out there and doing this formal kind of activism, we have youth who are very artistically capable and doing well in their athletics and all that," she said.

Dozens killed in Iran fire

TEHRAN

Firefighters lose lives as building falls during rescue

A historic highrise in the heart of Iran's capital caught fire and later collapsed Thursday, killing at least 30 firefighters and leaving their stunned colleagues and bystanders weeping in the streets.

The disaster at the 17-storey Plasco building, inadvertently shown live on state television, came after authorities said they repeatedly warned tenants about blocking stairwells with fabric from cramped garment workshops on its upper floors.

Firefighters, soldiers and other emergency responders dug through the debris into the night, looking for survivors. While it was not clear how many people were in the steel-and-concrete building, witnesses said many had slipped through a police cordon while the fire burned to go back inside for their belongings.

"They asked us ... using loudspeakers to evacuate the building, but some people went inside again, saying their precious documents, their bank checks, their entire life was in their shops," said witness Masoud Hosseini. "They went inside to fetch those documents. I felt like they cared about their belongings, checks and money more than their lives."

An Iranian firefighter walks among the debris of Iran's oldest highrise, the 15-storey Plasco building in downtown Tehran. AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Iranian authorities did not immediately release definitive casualty figures, which is common in unfolding disasters.

Iran's state-run Press TV announced the firefighters' deaths, without giving a source for the information. Mayor Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf said more than 20 bodies of firefighters had been recovered by Thursday night.

> **Some people went inside again, saying their precious documents, their bank checks, their entire life was in their shops.**
> Masoud Hosseini

Local state television said 30 civilians were injured, while the state-run IRNA news agency said 45 firefighters had been injured.

Firefighters began battling the blaze around 8 a.m., some 3 1/2 hours before the collapse. The fire appeared to be the most intense on the upper floors, the site of workshops where tailors cooked for themselves and used old kerosene heaters for warmth.

The building came down in seconds, shown live on state television , which had begun an interview with a journalist at the scene.

President Hassan Rouhani ordered Interior Minister Abdolreza Rahmani Fazli to investigate the disaster, IRNA reported. Rouhani also ordered the ministry to ensure the injured were cared for and immediately compensate those affected by the disaster. Rouhani, whose administration struck the nuclear deal with world powers, will probably be standing for re-election in May.

Another fire broke out later Thursday at a building next to the collapsed tower, according to the semi-official Fars news agency. Firefighters worked into the night to extinguish it.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AFRICA

Troops move in to Gambia

A West African regional force charged into Gambia Thursday to support the country's newly inaugurated president, while longtime ruler Yahya Jammeh showed no sign of stepping down.

The troops moved in shortly after Adama Barrow was inaugurated at Gambia's embassy in neighbouring Senegal.

In his inaugural speech, Barrow called on Jammeh to respect the will of the people and step aside. The new president also called on Gambia's armed forces to remain in their barracks as the regional military intervention got underway.

Barrow had come to Senegal last week at the urging of West African mediators, who had feared for his safety amid the political crisis.

African nations began stepping away from Jammeh, with Botswana announcing it no longer recognized him as Gambia's president. The African Union earlier announced that the continental body would no longer recognize Jammeh.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rubble and debris of a destroyed building covered with snow are pictured in the damaged central Italian village of Amatrice, after a 5.7-magnitude earthquake struck the region. AFP/GETTY

ITALY

First responders find no signs of life in avalanche-hit hotel

Rescue workers reported no signs of life Thursday at a four-star hotel buried by an avalanche in the mountains of earthquake-stricken central Italy. Two bodies were recovered of the estimated 30 people trapped inside as the risk of more avalanches slowed the search effort.

Two people escaped the devastation at the Hotel Rigopiano, in the mountains of the Gran Sasso range, and called for help, but it took hours for responders to reach the remote zone on skis.

Days of heavy snowfall had knocked out electricity and phone lines in many central Italian towns and hamlets, and four powerful earthquakes struck the region Wednesday.

It wasn't immediately clear if any of the quakes triggered the avalanche. But firefighters said the sheer violence of the 300-yard-wide (300-metre) snow slide on Wednesday uprooted trees in its wake and wiped out parts of the hotel.

The hotel in the Abruzzo region is about 30 miles (45 kilometres) from the coastal city of Pescara, at an altitude of about 3,940 feet (1,200 metres), located in the swath of central Italy between Rieti and Teramo jolted by Wednesday's quakes, one of which had a 5.7 magnitude.

Gianluca Valensise, seismologist at Italy's national vulcanology centre, said it wasn't clear if the quakes triggered the avalanche, since so much snow had accumulated in recent days.

"At the most it was a trigger, but certainly not the reason," he said. "The avalanche certainly would have come down sooner or later, but the distance from the epicentre is quite substantial."

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TALKING WITH TRUMP SUPPORTERS

They adore Donald Trump enough that they came to Washington to celebrate his inauguration. But there is one thing that bothers a whole lot of them. His tweeting. At the pre-inauguration celebration Thursday, his supporters extolled him as a good man and a change agent who will save a nation gone awry. They also say he should stop barking at people on the Internet. We asked some people what they liked most about him and what they liked least. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Tyrus Cobb, 33, truck driver — Indianapolis, Indiana
Like most? "I believe he's a man of his word."

Like least? "The only thing I would change is if he would stay off his social media."

Ashley Cobb, 32, homemaker. Indianapolis, Indiana
Like most? "He's a man of faith."
Like least? "Twitter."

Dennis Poer, 58, painter — Champaign, Illinois

Like most? "His honesty. He doesn't put up with any of the bullcrap."

Like least? "Not yet."

Joe Gelione, 49, banker. Anchorage — Alaska

Like most? "I like the fact that he doesn't mince words. A little politically incorrect, but he gets the point across."

Like least? "I wish he would calm down on the tweets."

Scott Esmeier, 55, construction worker — Arizona

Like most? "His can-do, gonna make it happen, doesn't back down."

Like least? "He could probably tone down his Twitter. Maybe wait five minutes before he tweets."

David Drexler, 53, attorney — Los Angeles, California

Like most? "His willingness to avoid political correctness and state the issues the way they should be stated."

Like least? "His comments about women I found very offensive. And they really bothered me during the campaign."

JUSTICE

Obama cuts 330 sentences

In a last major act as president, Barack Obama cut short the sentences of 330 federal inmates convicted of drug crimes on Thursday, bringing his bid to correct what he's called a systematic injustice to a climactic close.

With his final offer of clemency, Obama brought his total number of commutations granted to 1,715, more than any other president in U.S. history, the White House said. During his presidency Obama ordered free 568 inmates who had been sentenced to life in prison.

"He wanted to do it. He wanted the opportunity to look at as many as he could to provide relief," Neil Eggleston, Obama's White House counsel, said in an interview in his West Wing office. "He has a strong view that people deserve a second chance."

The final commutations — more in a single day than on any other day in U.S. history — were the culmination of Obama's effort to try to remedy the decades of sentencing requirements that he said had imprisoned thousands of drug offenders for too long. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Young activists gear up for historic Women's March

Amariyanna Copeny, a nine-year-old from Flint, Michigan, ended a speech on Martin Luther King Day with a knock knock joke. "Who's there?" the crowd asked.

"2044," she said.

"2044 who?"

"Vote for me in 2044!" she cheered. "I'm gonna be president."

So sayeth the youngest youth ambassador for this weekend's Women's March on Washington. And I wouldn't put it past her.

Copeny is one of about 30 young people across the U.S. chosen from hundreds of applications to lead a crucial aspect of the Women's March on Washington: capacity building for progressive activism, not just over the next four years, but within the next generation.

Flint's water crisis thrust Copeny into the international spotlight after her work to raise awareness about the problem helped convince Barack Obama to visit the city (she also met Donald Trump, looking a little apprehensive, in what became a viral image).

"It's an honour to be chosen as a youth ambassador and for me to be able to use my platform to be able to do what is right and not only stand up for my community, but for kids across the country who may not know that they can use their voice, as well," Copeny said.

The youth ambassador program is run by Tabitha St. Bernard-Jacobs, a 34-year-old who says she's doing it for her two-year-old son. These kids will be "taking over the world" one day, she told me. "They're at a point where they have questions and they want to have conversations about what's going on around them." The program is designed to amplify their voices and give them tools to be stronger activists. To that end, each ambassador is being paired with a seasoned activist to mentor them. They're being encouraged to spread the word among their peers about the Washington march and the hundreds of sister marches happening this Saturday.

Young people today are going to inherit a whole host of global crisis, from climate change and migration to morphing workforces, racial and income inequality. They also inherit a vibrant history of activism and increasing rights for all. The Women's March is a chance to recognize both.

There is something incredibly heartening, and especially respectful of diversity, in a movement that prioritizes the voices of those we often write-off of naive, naval-gazing, and entitled.

Imagine what being a part of that incredible experience could do for future leaders. Imagine what it could inspire. Amariyanna Copeny, 2044.

Amariyanna Copeny, also known as Little Miss Flint, during a #Justice4Flint rally. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Donald Trump speaks during a leadership luncheon at the Trump International Hotel in Washington, DC on the eve of his inauguration. AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Trump's time arrives

POLITICS

Unusual new presidency is in store

Donald Trump enters the White House on Friday just as he entered the race for president: defiant, unfiltered, unbound by tradition and utterly confident in his chosen course.

In the 10 weeks since his surprise election as the nation's 45th president, Trump has violated decades of established diplomatic protocol, sent shockwaves through business boardrooms, tested long-standing ethics rules and continued his combative style of replying to any slight with a personal attack — on Twitter and in person.

Past presidents have described walking into the Oval Office for the first time as a humbling experience, one that in an instant makes clear the weight of their new role as caretaker of American democracy. Trump spent much of his transition making clear he sees things differently: Rather than change for the office, he argues, the office will change for him.

"They say it's not presidential to call up these massive leaders of business," Trump told a crowd in Indianapolis in December. That was after he negotiated a deal with an air conditioning company to keep jobs in the state, a move many economists derided as unworkable national economic policy.

"I think it's very presidential," he declared. "And if it's not presidential, that's OK. That's OK. Because I actually like doing it."

Even before he takes the oath of office, Trump has changed the very nature of presidency, breaking conventions and upending expectations for the leader of the free world.

Advisers who've spoken with Trump say the billionaire real estate mogul and reality TV star is aware of the historic nature of his new job. He's told friends that he's drawn to the ambition of Ronald Reagan, a Republican, and John F. Kennedy, a Democrat.

But Trump also views himself as a kind of "sui generis" president, beholden to no one for his success and modeling himself after no leader who's come before. Trump has said he's read no biographies of former presidents.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

INAUGURATION

Here's the protocol for Hillary Clinton

Hillary Clinton's first major televised post-election appearance will be as a witness to a ceremony that could have been hers.

Here are a few ways Clinton can send subliminal messages to supporters, should she choose to.

1. Read my pantsuit

Bill Clinton-era secretary of state Madeleine Albright demonstrated her feelings about diplomatic encounters through what became known as "brooch diplomacy." She wore a snake pin when meeting with Iraqi officials the same year Saddam. With Clinton's designer pantsuits, her fashion choices could transmit a statement: A black outfit might hint at a pessimistic nation in mourning. A bright outfit would say, "Hey, look at me. You can't keep a good woman down."

2. Wear a safety pin

If she really wanted to send a bold message as well as bring something tiny to the proceedings, she could wear a safety pin on her lapel. Safety pins had an illustrious turn as a post-election political statement donned by "allies" of minorities and persecuted people. It was both held as a form of protest against a divisive election cycle and derided as a form of slacktivism.

3. Sit still, wear purple and play nice

Everyone is expecting the unexpected at this year's ceremony. Possibly the most subversive action Clinton could take is to plaster a vague smile on her face, wear purple and clap politely.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Hillary Clinton speaks in New York, where she conceded her defeat to Donald Trump. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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ALL WEEK: COMMENTARY AND IDEAS ON POLITICAL ACTION

DECODED by Genna Buck and Andrés Plana

WHEN SCIENTISTS TAKE A STAND

Scientists are quiet revolutionaries. Though they may sign petitions or speak out individually, they rarely throw public support behind a particular movement or cause. But they make a difference. Here are just five of the many scientists around the globe who've worked to change their fields and change the world.

Fiona Godlee

TWITTER.COM/FGODLEE

PUBLIC HEALTH
As editor-in-chief of the British Medical Journal, Godlee has led crusade after crusade on every public health issue, including harshly criticizing U.S. dietary guidelines and going after drug companies who don't release their data.

In November, Godlee co-wrote a fierce editorial calling on doctors to lobby to end the war on drugs and redirect resources into addiction treatment and harm reduction.

Kim Nicholas

TWITTER.COM/KA_NICHOLAS

CLIMATE SCIENCE
Nicholas studies how communities can protect food and water resources on a changing planet. She was spurred to action out of fear that climate scientists' knowledge base and public voice could be threatened under Trump.

Nicholas's sign at a protest organized by the American Geophysical Union was an online hit: It explained climate science in 12 words, complete with peer-reviewed footnotes.

Evelyn Gitau

TWITTER.COM/EVELYNGITAU

PARASITOLOGY
Gitau develops high-tech ways to tell the difference between body-fluid proteins in children with malaria and other diseases. This allows for targeted treatment and less overuse of antibiotics; a key factor behind the global superbug crisis.

Half of infections in sub-Saharan African hospitals are never diagnosed. Gitau fights for better technologies to fix this, and worked to set up research infrastructure in Kenya.

Harlan Krumholz

TWITTER.COM/HMKYALE

BIOMEDICINE
Krumholz has had a huge hand in the dawn of medicine's data age. He spearheaded the young field of outcomes research, investigating why some patients and hospitals, despite working with the same science, fare so much better than others.

Krumholz is a cheerleader for evidence, calling on drug companies and researchers to publish **all** their clinical trial data, especially from experiments that failed.

Ursula Franklin

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

PHYSICS
The late Ursula Franklin's pioneering work united chemistry and archeology to find ways to precisely date ancient artifacts. She also showed buildup of certain elements in children's teeth was the result of nuclear test fallout, spurring reform.

Franklin urged Canada to halt biological and chemical weapons research, fought for pay equity and advocated pacifists' right to opt out of having their taxes fund the military.

CITIZEN SCIENTIST by Genna Buck

Academics become activists by necessity

If you think scientists should stay in their lane and leave politics to politicians, you're going to be very disappointed over the next few years. Because when politicians attack science and evidence, it's everyone's business.

Case in point: the roar that rose up from the scientific world this week when Donald Trump appointed anti-vaccine kook and known measles-lover Robert F. Kennedy Jr. to head an unnecessary vaccine safety commission.

It's far from the first time scientists spoken out against Trump. The day after he was elected, Science magazine called, in a less-than-hopeful tone, for the president-elect to appoint a qualified science adviser and include research spending in his infrastructure blitz.

Scientists aren't solitary lab rats. They publish books and articles, educate students and the public, advise companies and governments, and speak out about issues that relate to their expertise. In our era of misleading memes and fake news, their role is more important than ever.

In repressive regimes around the world, academics are bullied, persecuted, silenced or co-opted. Even in democracies, they get slapped around for political gain. Remember the communications crackdown on Canadian scientists during the Harper years?

That's child's play compared to the U.S. Congress effectively banning the Centers for Disease Control from studying gun violence for the last 20 years. Without good data, the quality of public debate on the issue has suffered drastically. I hate to think about it, but a similar thing could happen with climate science. A large portion of the planet's climate science takes place within U.S. government agencies. Our planet needs that science.

As citizens, no matter where we live or who our leaders are, it's hugely important to show, publicly, that we have scientists' backs. We need to support their right to speak and listen when they do. We can't afford not to.

Science Question?
genna.buck@metronews.ca

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FINDINGS
Your week in science

MEN ARE FROM MARS, WOMEN ARE ... ALSO FROM MARS
The smaller amygdala in "the female brain," so says conventional wisdom, is why women have less sexual desire and aggression than men. But a new review of 46 MRI studies shows the organ, relative to body size, is about the same in everyone.

DARK THOUGHT
A trio of theoretical physicists trying to figure out what's making the universe expand say their math only makes sense is if some energy, contrary to the laws of physics we all learned in high school, is gradually being destroyed.

SOUND SMART

DEFINITION
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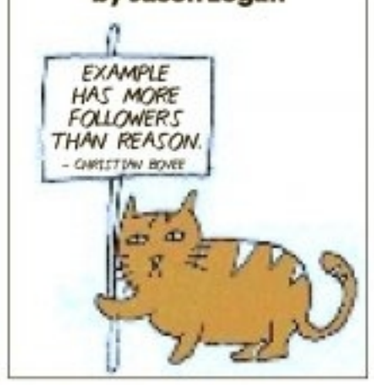
USE IT IN A SENTENCE
Sure, your graduation day is important, but it didn't create new magnetic fields. It's no **iron catastrophe**.

PHILOSOPHER CAT
by Jason Logan



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MOVIES MUSIC TELEVISION DIGITAL

The Founder, directed by John Lee Hancock, tells the storied history of Ray Kroc and the rise of McDonald's in popular culture. CONTRIBUTED

Meat of the McDonald's story

IN FOCUS

The Founder lifts lid on fast food giant and hunger for cash

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada

Ray Kroc changed the way we eat. He didn't invent the hamburger, but has probably sold more burgers than anyone else.

He standardized food preparation, setting the template for fast food restaurants worldwide and built an empire based on two all-beef patties, special sauce, lettuce, cheese, pickles, onions on a sesame seed bun.

If you believe The Founder, a biopic of Kroc's building of the McDonald's hamburger chain, he was also a bit of an SOB.

Michael Keaton, who plays Kroc from failed travelling salesman to a millionaire whose business card reads simply Founder, says the choices his character "makes towards the end after he becomes successful are harsh, man. And nothing I would ever do. Nothing most people would ever do."

So, is he a hero or villain? That's the question The Founder asks. Does he deserve a break today for changing the way the world eats or is he a ruthless businessman to be grilled for his heavy-handed tactics?

When we first meet Kroc he's hustling a newfangled milkshake maker. Despite his slick pitch, his blender isn't shaking up the fast food business. Restaurant after restaurant turns him down, until a small San Bernardino, Calif., burger shack run by siblings Mac and Dick McDonald (played by John Carroll Lynch and Nick Offerman) places an order for six of the machines, then ups the buy to eight.

Intrigued, Kroc travels cross-country to check out the operation and finds a bustling restaurant pumping out good food with military efficiency.

The brothers streamlined their kitchen for maximum productivity, maximizing every inch of space to bang out burgers in under 30 seconds. Kroc, amazed, convinces the pair to allow him to franchise their ideas and name. Reluctant, they agree but with a strict set of rules to ensure quality control.

Their uneasy partnership becomes a powder keg when Kroc unilaterally changes how the company is run. As the company grows so does Kroc's ego and anything-to-win attitude.

Much of the way Kroc treats his business partners in The Founder is as distasteful as The Hula Burger, his famous and failed foray into vegetarian cookery. He double deals, goes behind their backs and worse, tampers with some of their recipes.

Keaton does a great job of slowly revealing Kroc's duplicity and dive into self-indulgence as he transforms from failure to success. His natural charisma and flair — He's Batman! He's Mr. Mom! He's Beetlejuice! — brings with it a familiarity that makes sense when telling the story of one of the best known brands on earth.

As an actor Keaton brings us on side as he effectively portrays Kroc's descent into amorality and callousness.

Like the operation that caught Kroc's eye, the film is efficient, wasting no moves in the telling of the tale. It's a classic story of persistence and greed and director John Lee Hancock gets right to the meat of the story.

As much as the film is about the U.S.'s 1950s growth spurt, it is also a portrait of the kind of never-say-die spirit that evokes the very best and worst of the American Dream.

On film Kroc is insufferable, a ruthless conniver who grabbed the gold ring, or, in this case, golden arches. Is he a good guy or scoundrel? Depends what side of the sesame seed bun you place the special sauce on.

MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

Split	★★★★
The Founder	★★★

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★★★★ SEE IT
★★★ WORTHWHILE
★★ UP TO YOU
★ SKIP IT

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Actors braved 10-hour days in temperatures as low as -45 C to make the Inuit thriller Maliglutit (Searchers). CONTRIBUTED

Revenge tale has a natural, gritty feel

INTERVIEW

Story follows seal hunter on his rescue of daughter, wife

Shooting an Inuit thriller in the frozen Canadian tundra has myriad challenges.

But that's where veteran director Zacharias Kunuk finds his inspiration and passion, and where he returned for his revenge tale Maliglutit (Searchers).

Kunuk rattles off the frigid hurdles he faced while filming in Igloolik, Nunavut in March 2015 — lots of sheepskin was on hand to wrap precious camera and audio equipment, he says.

"It was an extremely cold year. It was colder than other years," says Kunuk.

His actors braved 10-hour days in temperatures as low as -45 C, he adds, and the "indoor" shoots offered only modest relief; they took place in igloos where temperatures hovered around -20 C, says Kunuk.

All par for the course for the celebrated filmmaker, whose resume of dramas and documentaries largely take place in and around his Northern home and offer a rare glimpse into the history of this remote region.

His latest Inuktitut-language feature centres on the abduction of two women by a group of murderous outlaws. Seal hunter Kuanana discovers his parents beaten, his son killed and his wife and daughter gone. He sets out with his grandson Siku to rescue them.

Kunuk says he was partly inspired by the old Westerns he watched as a teen in Igloolik, including John Ford's classic The Searchers.

But while that 1956 film centred on an overtly racist cowboy's quest for revenge when his niece is abducted by Comanche Indians, Kunuk casts Inuit characters as both the heroes and the villains.

"We used that model but we turned it into our own style," says Kunuk, best known for his 2001 drama Atanarjuat: The Fast Runner, a mythological epic that won the Camera d'Or at Cannes.

"We must make this film our way."

That included every effort to make sure Inuit culture was represented accurately.

The broader crew included carvers, seamstresses, Ski-Doo mechanics and hunters, the last group tasked with building igloos just as they would have been constructed in Nunavut circa 1913.

"I've seen (another film) where they put our seal oil lamp in the middle of the igloo and people were sleeping around it like a campfire, that's not how you do it. So we try to do it our culture's way. We have an elder who is the designer so she knows exactly where to put things. So after our art designer goes through the set, we come in and place the camera and start acting."

It all lends to a gritty naturalness that extends to the performances, largely delivered by a cast of first-time actors. If there's a documentary feel to it that's not by accident, Kunuk acknowledges.

"Everything we do has a documentary feel to it," the 59-year-old chuckles.

"One-hundred years from now when we're gone, these films will be alive."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

One-hundred years from now when we're gone, these films will be alive.
Director Zacharias Kunuk, left, with co-director and actor Natar Ungalaaq

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Documentary charts historic rise and rise of black education

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada

Tell Them We Are Rising: The Story of Black Colleges and Universities charts the establishment and impact of schools for African American students over the past 170 years. CONTRIBUTED

Stanley Nelson is no fan of zooming in. In fact, he's more likely to be pulling the camera back for the most sweeping view possible.

"I am really interested in telling the stories of institutions rather than stories of dynamic individuals," says Emmy Award winning documentarian Nelson. "To me that is a more intriguing way of telling history."

As the title suggests his new film, Tell Them We Are Rising: The Story of Black Colleges and Universities, is another doc that turns a macro lens on its subject. A wide ranging look at how Historically Black Colleges and Universities, or HBCUs, have helped shape the societal and cultural history of America for the last 170 years, it's a detailed account of the establishment of schools for African American students.

"As a filmmaker there were these incredible resources," he says, "stills, film, diaries and letters that existed in black colleges, that generally hadn't been used."

But there is also a personal side to the story.

"My parents both went to black colleges," he says. "They both went to school in the 1930s and that was the only option they had. That option changed my life, my sibling's lives, my kids' lives, and their kids' lives. Generation after generation will be changed because my parents had the opportunity to go to college."

Research for the documentary, which makes its Canadian premier at the Toronto Black Film Festival on Wednesday, Feb. 15, began several years ago and encapsulates a wide swath of history.

"We start the film during slavery," he says. "Not only was it illegal for black people to learn to read and write, it was illegal for a white person to teach a black person to read or write. That was against the law. There was punishment for teaching slaves to read and write.

> **Not only was it illegal for black people to learn to read and write, it was illegal for a white person to teach a black person to read or write.**
> Stanley Nelson

"The film started there and follows this incredible long search for knowledge in the African American community that goes through black colleges and goes through to today."

In recent years several HBCUs have flourished while others struggled.

"The universe for black colleges has changed in the last forty years or so," he says. "Before, these were the only places, pretty much, where black students could go if they wanted to get a higher education.

"Just as importantly they were the only places black professors could teach. After integration and now, to a certain degree, if you've gotten great marks in school and are at the top of your class you have options as to where you go to school. If you are a professor at the top of your profession in your chosen field you can teach at Howard or at Harvard where there are greater resources, greater prestige and you're getting paid more.

"There are choices now. Not to say that is bad in any way, but it has exacted a toll on black colleges and universities."

Still, Tell Them We Are Rising asserts HBCUs have an important place in higher education.

"We try to say that there are still reasons why any given student might choose to go to a black college or university. One of them is that it is a safe space. It is a space where you are not looked at as one of a kind. As one girl says, 'Movements are launched on black campuses,' because it is a place of people of like minds."

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An offer just too tasty to turn down

INTERVIEW

Actor quick to bite on Founder role — but hold the fries please

Steve Gow
For Metro Canada

Nick Offerman isn't exactly a fan of the world's biggest fast food franchise yet he jumped at a chance to star as one of the original architects of McDonald's.

"It didn't take much," admitted the comic-actor recently, recalling the offer to star opposite Michael Keaton in acclaimed director John Lee Hancock's The Founder. "I mean, we could've been doing the life story of Hitler and I would've been, well, I love those artists and if they're on board, there must be something to it."

Essentially an origin story about the ubiquitous burger chain, Offerman plays one of the McDonald brothers that invented the notion of fast food with their California drive-in — until a milkshake mixer salesman named Ray Kroc convinces them to expand.

Under his leadership, McDonald's explodes but their earnest upstart transforms into a monopolized machine at the brothers' expense.

"I knew a lot of the story points already (but) what I didn't know were some of the personal narrative details of the actual McDonald brothers," said Offerman.

"It's so humanizing to learn that these two hard-working guys actually invented this way to cook food. It's an institution, it's always been around so you never think that somebody had to actually weld up those ketchup dispensers."

Offerman also delights that the opportunity allowed him to star as sibling to longtime character actor John Carroll Lynch who may be Hollywood's most recognizable unknown star.

"For me, he inhabits my legendary character actor file drawer," explained Offerman of the man behind memorable roles in everything from TV's Walking Dead to movies like Shutter Island.

"I haven't said his name to anybody where they haven't given me a blank look. But I say look him up, you've seen him and you love him."

Nick Offerman, right, relished the chance to team up with character actor supreme John Carroll Lynch as the McDonald brothers in John Lee Hancock's The Founder. CONTRIBUTED

That anonymity is an attribute Offerman treasures himself. While recognition has certainly expanded since breaking out as deadpan Ron Swanson on TV's Parks and Recreation, the 46-year-old actor remains happy to bask in the shadow of fame.

"There's pros and cons to both sides," laughed Offerman. "John Carroll Lynch and Nick Offerman can walk through airports and you'll get stared at and some people will stop you for a photo. But George Clooney can't even walk through an airport."

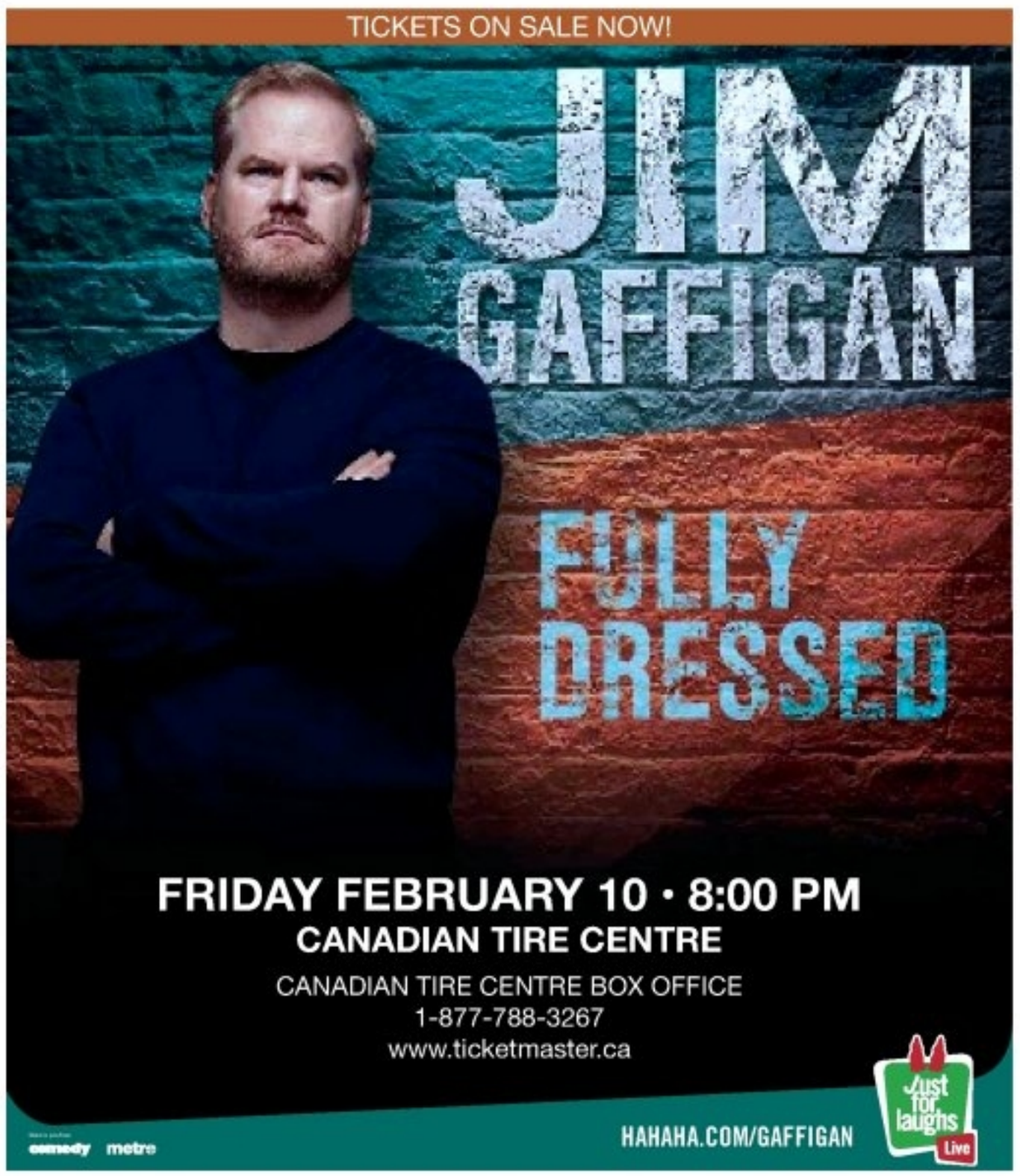
OPINIONS

Not a fast food fan

"Capitalism has had a great deal of success," said Offerman who admits he's not a fan of McDonald's and the hazards of unknown food sources. "We're all learning it's wonderful to have these great luxuries like fast food (but) what's the real cost of all of these treats that we love so much?"

On finding success late in his career

"Despite how cute I think I am, I think I probably would've been a pretty big f— up if I had something successful like Parks & Recreation in my twenties," giggled Offerman. "You never know, maybe I would've been a great and wise leader, but I doubt it."



ANIMAL WELFARE

Cruelty complaint filed over German shepherd treatment

A Toronto-based animal law organization has filed animal cruelty complaints over the treatment of a German shepherd on the set of the film A Dog's Purpose.

Animal Justice says footage apparently shot near Winnipeg in November 2015 shows the filmmakers forcing the dog into turbulent water.

The footage, which first surfaced on the website TMZ, shows the distressed dog fighting to stay out of the water by repeatedly clawing at the edge of the pool.

A subsequent shot shows the dog submerged under the water while a voice is hear yelling "Cut it!" and handlers moved in to pull the animal out.

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals has called for a boycott of the movie, which stars Dennis Quaid and is directed by Lasse Hallstrom, and is set to be released later this month.

Animal Justice says it has filed complaints with the Winnipeg Humane Society, the Chief Veterinary Office of Manitoba, and the Winnipeg police department alleging violations of federal and provincial animal protection laws.

"Throwing a terrified German shepherd into rushing water is blatant animal cruelty," Camille Labchuk, a lawyer and executive director of Animal Justice, said in a news release.

Throwing a terrified German shepherd into rushing water is blatant animal cruelty.
Camille Labchuk, a lawyer and executive director of Animal Justice

"It is illegal to inflict suffering and anxiety onto animals, and there is no loophole that lets Hollywood moviemakers get away with abusing animals on a film set."

The American Humane society has also launched an investigation into the incident and says it has suspended its safety representative who worked on the film.

The film's producer, Amblin Entertainment, and distributor, Universal Pictures, said in a joint statement that they are reviewing the footage, but they are confident that "great care and concern was shown" for the dog.

"There were several days of rehearsal of the water scenes to ensure Hercules was comfortable with all of the stunts," the statement said.

Actor Josh Gad, who lends his voice to a dog in the film, issued a statement on Twitter saying he has asked the studio and production team for an explanation of what he calls "disturbing images."

He said that while the finished film is "one of the most beautiful love letters to animals I have ever seen," he was troubled by the video.

"I am shaken and sad to see any animal put in a situation against its will," Gad wrote. A publicist for the actor confirmed the post was authentic.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

WATCH THE VIDEO ON THE METRO NEWS APP

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National Geographic collaborates with Parks Canada on two new guides to Canada

Fanciest cheap eats in the world

SINGAPORE

For $2 and 2.5 hours, you can get a Michelin-starred meal

David Bateman
For Torstar News Service

Two plates of food and a bowl of soup at Hill Street Tai Hwa Pork Noodle costs less than $10, the second cheapest Michelin star meal in the world. At Hong Kong Soya Sauce Chicken and Rice (left and top right) you can get a dish for less than $2. ALL PHOTOS DAVID BATEMAN/FOR TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

I might have started a black market.

There's hundreds of food stalls at Chinatown's hawker complex and only one is busy.

The fantastically literal Hong Kong Soya Sauce Chicken Rice and Noodle sells the world's cheapest Michelin-star food, starting at $2 SGD ($1.92 CDN). Less than a box of Timbits.

The wait was 45 minutes before Michelin's first Singapore guide launched in July. Parched, salivating customers now wait 2.5 hours.

As perplexing as chefs dreaming of acclaim from a tire company seems, a star is a culinary Academy Award and eating Michelin food is on many bucket lists.

Most other hawker stalls close at around 4 p.m., when chef Chan Hon Meng turns customers away because he's out of food.

That's a problem for me at 3:45 p.m. As always, I'm late, and I leave Singapore the next day. Mission impossible? I've no Tom Cruise smile to flash, only crooked fangs and a broad Scottish accent.

Truthfully, creating a black market was accidental. A Singaporean who translated for me realized she ordered far too much food. For a few bucks, I bought her (untouched, I'm no animal) leftovers.

At Hill Street Tai Hwa Pork Noodle, the only other Michelin-starred food stall, I go straight and wait in line for the dry minced meat noodles dish and a bowl of soup. Cost: less than $10 CDN.

It's tough. I have the patience of a hungry cat watching its owner struggling with a tin of tuna.

My feet ache and I lose a good shirt to sweat.

The lineup is more subdued than Texas barbecue hot spots, but Singaporean couple Mevlyn Chew and Andy Teo kindly talk me through the three-dish menu.

I ask what makes Tai Hwa more special than hawker stalls offering national dishes?

"Every time, the minced meat noodles is the same," says Chew.

"We go to other stalls because we need to eat. This one, you remember it.

Hong Kong Soya Sauce Chicken Rice and Noodle will need a better acronym than HKSSCRN if local media reports are true that Meng wants to sell his recipe for $2 million and rival KFC.

Meng proves elusive, inadvertently hiding between bars of golden brown chickens and red pork drying on hooks. He's earned every wrinkle on his forehead, working 17-hour days.

I feel silly complaining of tiredness watching Meng and Tai Hwa's octopus-chef. He sieves noodles, adds sauce, tosses noodles to water, pivots, douses noodles, adds meat, plates it, and begins the next masterpiece.

Hours of waiting and commotion end at the smack of cafeteria trays on plastic tables. Good food creates silence. Necks hunch. Thumbs go up, mouths preoccupied. Neanderthal grunts ensue.

At Tai Hwa, comforting noodles mingle with crispy pork. A tiny piece of fragrant fish overwhelms my mouth.

Chicken glistens at HKSSCRN, the cheaper acronym-deficient stall where I barely waited. The meat is slick, not greasy. Bouncy yet delicate. Salty soy animates the crispy-lined pork edges and chicken skin.

Ignoring a few hungover life-saving bacon rolls, both stalls are the best sub-$5 food I can remember.

The experience, foot blisters and all, transcends the camaraderie of sharing food.

It forces international strangers to share the wait, too, and maybe even some leftovers.

David Bateman is a Scottish writer.

TRENDING

Casual fare
While the powers that be at Michelin are still awarding stars mainly to high end restaurants, these aren't the only cheap eats to make the list. Last year, Michelin's Tokyo guide featured a $14 ramen noodle bar.

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On the "free-range art highway" of U.S. Hwy 95 you can see the International Car Forest of the Last Church. JENNIFER BAIN/FOR TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Junkyard highway

NEVADA

Art imitates life here — or is it the other way around?

Jennifer Bain
Torstar News Service

There's art, freaky and free, strewn across the Nevada desert. Looping back to Vegas after a spin down the Extraterrestrial Highway, I made time for three down-to-earth, "free-range-art" moments.

Supposedly you can see the International Car Forest of the Last Church from the highway in Goldfield, but as you drive through the south end of the no-longer-booming mining town — where furniture, appliances and vehicles adorn yards — it's tough to know if life is imitating art or if art is mimicking life.

Veer off-road and drive toward the big blue upside down bus. There's a small sign that declares this place "the world's largest national junk car forest" and cryptically adds: "ARTIST's PLAY GROUND & ATV Park, with Ultra light runways."

Ponder the meaning of that while wandering among 40-odd grafittied and painted junk cars mostly planted nose first in the desert. That's all the information you'll get because creator Michael "Mark" Rippie was last seen in federal prison on firearm charges, and artist Chad Sorg moved away.

If you are lucky, like I was, it will be a slightly unnerving, solitary experience with only Joshua trees, lizards and braying donkeys for company in a cellular dead zone surrounded by rusted cars and random busted appliances that may be cheekily abandoned or may also be art in this car forest.

It's presumably no accident that the Goldwell Open Air Museum, with its signature ghostly version of The Last Supper, is right beside the ghost town of Rhyolite. This art destination dates back to 1984, when Belgian artist Albert Szukalski was compelled to create a sculpture west of Beatty near California's Death Valley. The story goes that Szukalski wrapped human models in plaster-soaked fabric and posed them just like Christ and his disciples in Leonardo da Vinci's The Last Supper painting. The models slipped out, the artist coated the rigid figures with fibreglass and here we are millions of tourists later.

> **If you are lucky, like I was, it will be a slightly unnerving, solitary experience.**

Seven Magic Mountains is a magnet for the Vegas selfie crowd, but the presence of bikers who whip down S. Las Vegas Blvd. past Jean Dry Lake by the dozens is an unexpected bonus. Swiss artist Ugo Rondinone's stacks of limestone boulders painted with fluorescent colours are so hot that this free-range-art scene must post warnings to not "climb on, move, dislodge or disturb" the art. Yeah, try telling that to the clan in matching pink "Be awesome today" t-shirts positioning for that perfect photo.

Jennifer Bain was hosted by Travel Nevada, which didn't review or approve this story.

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Europe on $5 a day, 60 years later

FROMMER'S

Guidebook creator talks transforming travel industry

Arthur Frommer with his daughter Pauline, who now runs the business. PETER MORGAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This year the legendary travel guidebook writer Arthur Frommer celebrates 60 years since the publication of his 1957 book, Europe on $5 a Day.

His message of authentic bargain travel encouraged average people — not just the wealthy — to vacation abroad.

How did the brand begin?

While in the army overseas, I was always struck by the fact that my fellow GIs did not travel. They were scared to travel. They were worried about how you would pay for various items. What currency would you use, where would you live at night, and I decided to do a guidebook.

You returned to New York to practice law but decided to write another guidebook for civilians.

During a one-month vacation, I returned to Europe and I went running to 15 different European cities, getting up at 5 a.m. in the morning, hitting the streets, going from one guest house to another, from one low-cost restaurant to another, and I then wrote a book called Europe on $5 a Day.

What was the impact?

In the 1950s, most Americans had been taught that foreign travel was a once-in-a-lifetime experience, especially travel to Europe.

They were taught that they were going to a war-torn country where it was risky to stay in any hotel other than a five-star hotel. It was risky to go into anything but a top-notch restaurant. ... And I knew that all these warnings were a lot of nonsense.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

QUEBEC

Beauty pageant of the sea

As the story goes, the training ship Amerigo Vespucci was sailing the Mediterranean in 1962 when the U.S. aircraft carrier Independence spotted it and radioed: "Who are you?" Came the reply: "School ship Amerigo Vespucci, the Italian Navy." The Independence answered: "You are the most beautiful ship in the world."

Tall ships sometimes come with tall tales, and whether that one is true may be lost to history. What's not in dispute is that the venerable three-masted frigate is a handsome piece of work and just one of dozens of majestic ships that will be sailing North Atlantic waters this summer, visiting ports along the St. Lawrence River for weeks and gathering en masse in Quebec City July 18-23.

Early planning may pay off because hotel rooms are likely to be hard to come by close to the event. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Amerigo Vespucci.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

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metro SPORTS

"Whenever he needed, he came up with a big serve, big play": Novak Djokovic after a five-set loss to 117th-ranked Denis Istomin in Melbourne

A whole new routine

FIGURE SKATING

Virtue, Moir 'didn't want to skate the same way' in return

The return of veterans Tessa Virtue and Scott Moir to competition this season has been like slipping on a favourite sweater for figure skating fans. They've been the face of Canadian ice dancing for so long.

But from their new coaches to their new home base, to even a new way of skating, virtually nothing is the same about the Olympic gold and silver medallists since they stepped away from competition after the 2014 Sochi Games.

They planned it that way.

"It's just an ongoing process in the gym and also on the ice, and that's been really cool, it's been thrilling," Virtue said. "We knew when we decided we wanted to come back that we didn't want to do things the same way, we didn't want to skate the same way, we didn't want to approach anything the same. That was a big part of the draw."

Virtue, 27, and Moir, 29, will be aiming for their seventh national senior title at this week's Canadian championships, which determine the team for the world championships this spring in Helsinki.

But all of their preparation is pointing toward Pyeongchang, where Virtue and Moir are set on reclaiming their Olympic crown. And to that end, they moved from their previous home in Canton, Mich., to Montreal to work with coaches and five-time Canadian ice dance champions Marie-France Dubreuil and Patrice Lauzon.

"It's like the last two per cent we're trying to figure out, to be optimal performers."
Scott Moir

Tessa Virtue and Scott Moir have won two Grand Prix events plus the Grand Prix Final since returning to competition this season. ANNE-CHRISTINE POUJOULAT/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

And they've assembled a team of around a dozen sports experts, from nutritionists to physiotherapists to sports psychologist J.F. Menard, as part of a "more scientific approach," Virtue said, that they hope will guide them to gold.

"Our whole big entourage is getting quite large, we have so many experts around us that can really offer that, so whether it's a jet lag plan, a sleep routine, it's all about managing our energy so we feel at full capacity when we take the ice every single time," she said. "We're learning."

"We have so much more of a sophisticated off-ice team, and that comes with our mental coach (Menard), he's really been honest to rehearse what we're going to be doing in Korea at the Olympic Games," Moir added. "So we're trying to use every single competition this year as a rehearsal for the Olympics."

The two, who've been undefeated in their return, winning their two Grand Prix events plus the Grand Prix Final, even went so far as to strip down their skating fundamentals, poring over endless video footage.

It was absolutely necessary, the two insisted.

"We figured out the areas we could make the most improvements, and that was everything from the glide of the blade to the knee bend, really restructuring how we're trying to stroke, so basic fundamental skating," Virtue said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

COMPETITION

- Patrick Chan will be gunning for a ninth Canadian senior singles title this week, while Meagan Duhamel and Eric Radford are poised to capture their sixth consecutive pairs title.
- The women's singles should be a fierce battle between Kaetlyn Osmond, Alaine Chartrand and Gabrielle Daleman.

NFL PLAYOFFS

Big Ben: I'm not on Brady's level

Ben Roethlisberger intended for the moment to be private. The camera following him to midfield and the microphone tucked inside Tom Brady's shoulder pads ended up making that impossible.

Their brief exchange before Brady and the New England Patriots visited the Pittsburgh Steelers in October provided a snapshot into a rivalry that never was. They bro-hugged. They lamented the left knee injury that forced Roethlisberger out of the lineup on that warm late fall afternoon.

And then Roethlisberger made an uncharacteristic request: a signed Brady jersey to hang on the wall in Roethlisberger's home office next to Hall of Famers Dan Marino, John Elway and Jim Kelly.

"They are the dragon. We are trying to slay them."
Ben Roethlisberger

"I consider him one, if not the best of all-time," Roethlisberger said.

A group Roethlisberger does not include himself in.

The reason is simple: rings. Brady has four, including two he earned while carving a path through the playoffs that included victories in Pittsburgh in 2001 and 2004. Roethlisberger has two, neither of which required Roethlisberger or the Steelers to take out Brady along the way.

It's why Roethlisberger just shakes his head when asked if he's part of the "gold standard" label that he so eagerly attaches to Brady.

"Not as (his) level," Roethlisberger said. "Obviously, with all the Super Bowls he has."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ben Roethlisberger GETTY IMAGES

GOLF

Stenson showing no signs of rust

Henrik Stenson had just chipped in from 30 yards for a fourth birdie in his first five holes of 2017 when he turned to his caddie and delivered another example of his renowned dry humour.

"Must be all that short-game practice I didn't do," the No. 2-ranked Swede said, deadpan as ever.

With eight birdies in a bogey-free and trouble-free opening round, Stenson — who spent more time on the ski slopes in Utah than hitting golf balls during his short off-season — shot an 8-under 64 to take a two-stroke lead on Thursday at Abu Dhabi HSBC Championship.

Henrik Stenson GETTY IMAGES

A group of four players were in second with rounds of 66.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUSSIE OPEN

Another year, another third round for Raonic

Third-seeded Milos Raonic of Canada maintained his record of reaching the third round all seven years he has contested the Australian Open.

The Thornhill, Ont., product saved a set point in the third before beating Gilles Muller 6-3, 6-4, 7-6 (4) on Thursday.

The win advanced Raonic to a third-round match against No. 25 Gilles Simon.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

SOCCER

Women's national team vets retiring

Three veteran members of Canada's national women's soccer team will make their final appearance with the team in a Feb. 4 game against Mexico at BC Place Stadium.

Striker Melissa Tancredi, defender/striker Rhian Wilkinson and defender Marie-Eve Nault officially announced their retirements at a news conference Friday in Vancouver.

27

Tancredi scored 27 goals in 124 games for the national team.

All three players were members of the Canadian team that won back-to-back bronze medals at the London and Rio de Janerio Olympic Games.

Tancredi, 35, and Wilkinson, 34, will both be available to play in the friendly against Mexico. Nault, 34, will be in attendance at the match but not in the lineup. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Pivotal moment

There's a lot of talk heading into Sunday's NFL conference title games about the accomplishments, talents and legacies of the four outstanding starting QBs, which makes sense. These guys are not perfect, though. They make mistakes. And chances are, one or more will do so again this weekend. So what stands out about these QBs?

1 TOM BRADY

POSITIVES: Diagnoses a blitz and shifts the play; 126.8 passer rating against blitzes led the league, according to Sportradar. Turns seemingly anyone into an effective receiver, putting the football where teammates can make big plays; sixth in the NFL this season in percentage of total yards after the catch (49.1), according to Sportradar.

NEGATIVES: In 10 conference title games, owns 76.3 passer rating with 12 TDs, 12 INTs. On post-season deep throws (more than 20 yards in the air) since 2007: 50.6 rating; 26 completion percentage, 4 TDs, 6 INTs.

THEY SAID IT: "He does such a good job of relating to you ... the way that he likes things to be run, his route details and that type of stuff."
— **Patriots WR Chris Hogan**

JIM ROGASH/GETTY IMAGES

KEVIN C. COX/GETTY IMAGES

4 MATT RYAN

POSITIVES: Spreads the ball around , setting an NFL record with TD passes to 13 receivers this season. His 135.4 passer rating on deep throws led NFL, according to Sportradar, and his 9.3 yards per attempt were surpassed only by three QBs since the AFL-NFL merger. Durable, making 120 consecutive starts.

NEGATIVES: Only had seven INTs this season, but four came in losses - three in the final four minutes; another was a pick-6 late in the first half. Trailing by one possession in the fourth quarter, career passer rating is 81.9, with 16 TDs, 14 INTS. Just 2-4 in playoff games, with 7 INTs.

THEY SAID IT: "We've got a lot of different moving parts and different guys that can make plays."
— **Matt Ryan**
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JUSTIN K. ALLER/GETTY IMAGES

2 BEN ROETHLISBERGER

POSITIVES: Long known for extending plays, now quickly understands what's available and gets the ball to playmakers. Trailing in the fourth quarter of one-possession games this season, compiled near-perfect 156.1 passer rating, 27 for 31 for 371 yards, 4 TDs, no INTs.

NEGATIVES: Can be troubled by blitzes: 78.6 passer rating this season, 24th in the league. Brady, in contrast, led the NFL at 126.8, according to Sportradar; Matt Ryan is No. 2 at 122.5.

THEY SAID IT: "He is just making really good pre-snap decisions and post-snap decisions.... He is doing a better job of not trying to make a 'Ben-like' play all the time."
— **Pittsburgh Steelers offensive co-ordinator Todd Haley**

3 AARON RODGERS

POSITIVES: Terrific out of the pocket, often via designed rollouts. This post-season, according to Sportradar, he's 16 for 20 for 234 yards, with 2 TDs, 0 INTs and a 148.8 rating on such plays. Every other playoff QB has thrown for 182 yards combined and a 56.2 rating.

NEGATIVES: Only 17-36 with a game-winning drive or comeback opportunity, a .321 winning percentage that's by far the worst of this bunch, according to Scott Kacsmar of Football Outsiders.

THEY SAID IT: "Look at the flexibility, the ability to turn his hips, the flexibility he has in his shoulder and elbow."
— **Green Bay Packers coach Mike McCarthy** on Rodgers' ability to throw while moving to his left.

TOM PENNINGTON/GETTY IMAGES

NFC CHAMPIONSHIP GAME

Leaky pass Ds to be tested in Atlanta

The Green Bay Packers' blueprint to slow down Atlanta in the NFC championship game focuses on turning the high-octane Falcons into a one-dimensional offence.

It sounds simple. But it could be tough to execute for the Packers with their injury issues in the secondary. It's tough enough to contain All-Pros Matt Ryan and Julio Jones with a healthy defence.

Linebacker Clay Matthews is eager to take on the next test when the Packers visit the Georgia Dome on Sunday.

"That's ultimately what we strive for each and every week," Matthews said about slowing down Atlanta's fifth-ranked rushing attack to create favourable pass-rushing situations. "It's about stopping the run and getting after the quarterback."

The Falcons' own leaky pass defence will also be stressed.

Green Bay's Aaron Rodgers has been nearly unstoppable of late, with 21 TD passes and one interception over an eight-game winning streak.

"We love a challenge," Falcons cornerback Robert Alford said when asked if he was insulted by predictions of a high-scoring game.

But the conditions seem ripe for a shootout, just like when Atlanta beat Green Bay 33-32 in Week 8. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

It's about stopping the run and getting after the quarterback.
Packers LB Clay Matthews

INJURY UPDATE HURTING JONES SAYS HE'LL PLAY The Atlanta Falcons' Julio Jones makes a catch during walkthroughs on Thursday in Flowery Branch, Ga. The Falcons All-Pro receiver missed his second day of practice Thursday with a sprained left toe but said he's confident he will be ready Sunday when Atlanta hosts Green Bay. JOHN BAZEMORE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

DeRozan named to East all-stars starting five
Toronto's DeMar DeRozan won a tiebreaker to join Cleveland's LeBron James among the East's starters for the NBA All-Star Game.

The rest of the East lineup for the Feb. 19 game in New Orleans is Kyrie Irving of Cleveland, Giannis Antetokounmpo of Milwaukee, and Jimmy Butler of Chicago. DeRozan beat out Boston's Isaiah Thomas.

The West starting five is Stephen Curry, Kevin Durant, James Harden, Russell Westbrook and Kawhi Leonard. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Barça solves Real Sociedad
Barcelona's 10-year winless run at Real Sociedad is finally over after a 1-0 win in a first-leg quarter-final of the Copa del Rey on Thursday.

Neymar converted a first-half penalty and Barcelona held on at Anoeta Stadium for the first time since 2007. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Trumbo a physical away from $37.5M, source says
The Baltimore Orioles have agreed to a $37.5 million, three-year contract to keep major league home run champion Mark Trumbo, a person familiar with the negotiations told The Associated Press.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity Thursday night because the agreement is contingent on Trumbo passing a physical. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Senegal surging at AFCON
Senegal's blistering first 14 minutes against Zimbabwe saw it race into the quarter-finals of the African Cup of Nations on Thursday.

Sadio Mane and Henri Saivet scored in the 2-0 win in Franceville, Gabon, and halfway through the group stage, Senegal has produced the most compelling argument so far for the status of title favourite. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MAKE IT TONIGHT

Decadent French Toast Nuggets with Lemon Ricotta

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

A crusty baguette over sliced bread makes this classic breakfast a million times better since it's soft oozes creamy ricotta filling.

Ready in 30 minutes
Prep time: 20 minutes
Cook time: 10 minutes
Serves 4

Ingredients
For the French Toast:
- 1 multi-grain baguette loaf
- 5 eggs
- 1 cup milk
- 1 tsp real vanilla extract
- 1 Tbsp cinnamon
- 1/8 tsp allspice
- butter
- 1 pint blueberries

For the Ricotta Filling:
- 1/2 cup ricotta cheese
- zest and juice of 1/2 lemon
- 2 tsp sugar

Directions

1. Slice baguette into 1-inch pieces and then cut a pocket horizontally through the side into the centre of the slice. In a mixing bowl, whisk eggs, milk, vanilla, cinnamon and all spice.

2. In a separate bowl, mix the ricotta, zest, juice and sugar.

3. Using a teaspoon, fill the pocket of each slice of baguette then place pieces into a 8x8 inch baking pan and pour the egg mixture over the bread. Allow the bread to soak for 10 minutes.

4. In a large skillet, melt the butter over medium heat then lay down your soaked baguette pieces. Allow each side to cook until golden brown, about 3 to 5 minutes each side. Repeat until you've completed all the slices. Serve with maple syrup

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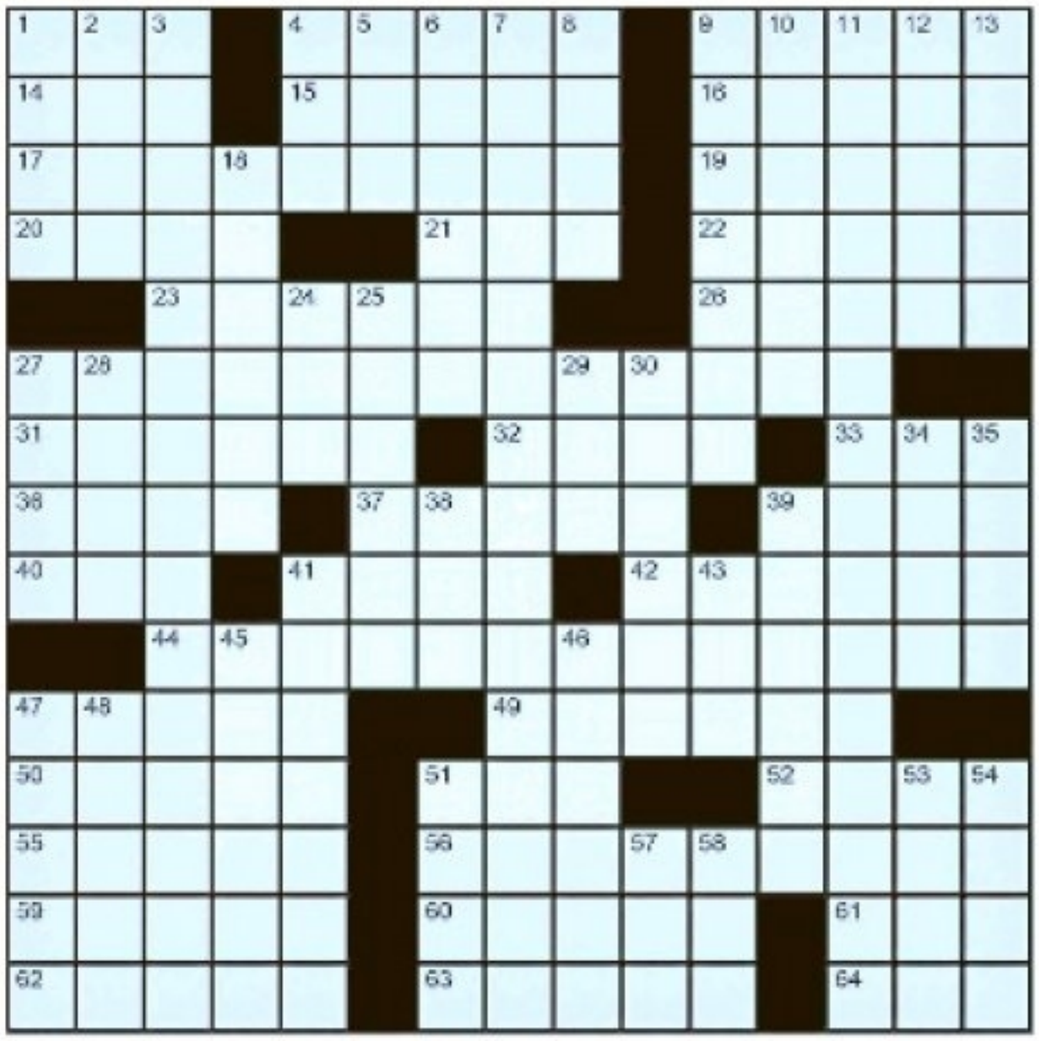
CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
11. Coffee mug part
4. Heaves
9. Taj __
14. Tip to 'meter', as per mileage
15. Earth tone
16. "Saying it __ __ thing, doing..."
17. Brothers-founded movie studio, The __ Company
19. British actress Ms. Swinton
20. Tepid
21. Drips in the hosp.
22. Ankle bone
23. Three-horsed Russian carriage
26. Pyramids place
27. Alanis Morissette hit: 3 wds.
31. Rebelled
32. Christian denomination, e.g.
33. "Yes." in Paris
36. "Up and __ '__!" (Rise and shine!)
37. Himalayas land
39. Wrongdoing, in law
40. Sydney is this Australian state's cap.
41. W.B. Yeats land
42. Lyric†poems
44. Televised sports feature first used by Hockey Night in Canada in 1955: 2 wds.
47. Be silent, in music
49. Push through a crowd
50. Star Trek: The Next Generation second-in-command
51. Tree-of-acorns
52. Lettered grocery stores
55. "Hitch __" by Boston
56. Pass the __ __ (Qualify as being legit)
59. Al __ (Pasta preference)
60. Moisturizers target them
61. Dundee refusal
62. Grain fungus
63. Commencement
64. Kiefer's actor dad's initials-sharers

DOWN
1. Dustups
2. Prefix with 'logical'
3. Feature of sportswear fabrics: 2 wds.
4. "Vacation" by The Go-__
5. Behave
6. Title of honour/respect in the Middle East
7. Goldie Hawn army comedy of 1980: 2 wds.
8. Ott. hockey players
9. Knitted hand warmers
10. Variety of cheese
11. Sidewalk star-getter in showbiz, often: 2 wds.
12. Down __ __ (Where escalators go)
13. Smallest in quantity
18. There's not any space left: 2 wds.
24. 'Humor' suffix
25. "Understood.": 3 wds.
27. Currency in China
28. Selects
29. Copycat
30. Tailed toy flyers
34. Fertilizer component
35. __-bitsy
38. George's lyricist brother
39. Illuminated with potlights, perhaps
41. Bruce Springsteen & The __ Band
43. Collared companion
45. "I __ __ Know" by Marc Anthony
46. Subway payments
47. Barter
48. Broadcaster
51. Norwegian city
53. Namesakes of Mr. Gray of botany
54. Jeanne d'Arc, et al.
57. Actor, Jason __
58. Items-on-paper, e.g.

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
There's no question that secret love affairs are taking place for some of you. Perhaps you have a secret crush on someone, because you have strong and intense feelings that you are keeping private.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
You have strong feelings for a friend today. In fact, the friend might become a lover. Either way, this friendship is important to you.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
People admire you today, especially people in power. This is why a romantic relationship might begin with a boss or someone in a position of authority.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
A romance with someone from another culture or someone who is "different" might begin for some of you today. Others will feel passionate about taking a trip somewhere. (It's important to you.)

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Romantic relationships will be passionate now. In fact, you will feel intense about everything you do today!

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You feel strong affection for close friends and partners today. This might even be a wake-up call for some of you, because you might not have realized the depth of your feelings.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You might develop a romantic relationship with a colleague today. Others will use this same energy to try to make their workspace more attractive. You want to improve things.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
This is a passionate, romantic day for your sign. If you are in a romantic relationship, this is the day for a date. Artists will be creative and productive.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You will be eager to make improvements at home today, especially through redecorating projects. Some of you will explore real-estate opportunities as well.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Today something will happen to make you appreciate the beauty in your surroundings, as well as the affection that you encounter on a daily basis in your world. What a blessing.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Trust your moneymaking ideas today, because they might be excellent. If shopping, however, you might feel obsessed about buying something.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
This is a good day to look in the mirror and ask yourself what you can do to improve your appearance. You also might buy something to wear that you really like!

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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5	8	9	7	6	2	4	1	3
1	6	7	3	9	4	5	2	8
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9	7	1	5	3	6	2	8	4
7	1	3	8	4	9	6	5	2
6	9	4	2	7	5	8	3	1
8	2	5	6	1	3	9	4	7

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